

The President decided that as the absent members had not answered at this extra session of the Senate, it was full. Whereupon Mr. Harcourt appealed and, having withdrawn the appeal, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Thursday, February 26, 1863  
9 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Harcourt introduced a Bill to repeal the act approved December 25, 1861, to provide for the organization of the State Troops and to place the same on a war footing. Read 1st time.

Messrs. Durant, Reed, Parsons, Maxey, and Hord were announced as the select committee on the subject of the militia upon Mr. Durant's motion to refer to such a committee made on Monday last.

Mr. Lea, Chairman of the Committee on Finance, on behalf of that Committee reported upon the suggestion contained in President Davis' message that the several states of the Confederacy assume each their proportional parts of the public debt of the Confederacy, that as the Senate had taken action on the subject the Committee asked to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Lea, Chairman as aforesaid, also asked for the same reason that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject of repealing the specie tax.

Mr. Hartley moved a reconsideration of the vote taken on yesterday, laying the amendment of Mr. Harcourt as suggestively amended by Mr. Shepard on the table. The Yeas and Nays being called on the motion to reconsider, Mr. Hartley moved a call of the Senate which was sustained, the Senate not being full. Mr. Burney moved to suspend the order of business in order to take up a House bill for the relief of those holding land under Daniel Monroe. Carried. Read 2nd time and passed to 3rd reading. Rule suspended. Read 3rd time and passed.

Mr. Maxey moved to suspend the order of business that a bill granting land to the officers and soldiers of Texas in the present war might be taken up. Lost.

Mr. Shepard moved to take up a bill to repeal the laws

authorizing the sale of land scrip. Lost. A Bill to authorize the County Courts to establish a tariff of prices for the purposes therein named. Read 2nd time. The question being for the amendment offered by Mr. Casey to Mr. Guinn's proposed substitute for 1st Section. Mr. Casey withdrew his amendment whereupon the question recurred on the adoption of Mr. Guinn's substitute for the 1st Section. Mr. Quayle moved to amend by inserting "wool and cotton for home consumption." Adopted. Mr. Shepard moved to amend further by adding "and all other articles that may be needed by soldiers' families."

The Senate being full, the question was upon Mr. Hartley's motion to reconsider the vote taken on yesterday as herein above stated. Whereupon Mr. Shepard appealed from the decision of the President made on yesterday upon the question made by Mr. Dickson whether the Senate was full. The question "Shall the decision of the President be the decision of the Senate?" was then put. Upon which the Yeas and Nays were called and stood thus:

Yeas: Messrs. Beasley, Boyd, Burney, Cooper, Crawford, Durant, Hord, Lea, Lair, Maxey, Parsons, Quayle, Weatherford, and Wheeler—14.

Nays: Messrs. Andres, Batte, Casey, Cook, Dickson, Ford, Graham, Guinn, Harcourt, Hartley, Moore of Davis, Moore of Bastrop, Reed, Selman, Shepard, and White—16.

Mr. Parsons moved to suspend the call. Lost. Mr. Burney moved that the Sergeant at Arms or a special messenger be sent for Mr. Jordan, Mr. Mitchell, and Mr. Houston. Whereupon Mr. Durant proposed the following as a substitute: "Whereas Senators Jordan, Mitchell, and Houston have not been in attendance this extra session, therefore be it resolved that no further call of these senators be had during this Session." This was declared out of order as a substitute whereupon Mr. Durant submitted it as an original proposition which under the rule lays over one day for consideration. The question being upon Mr. Burney's motion, it was by leave withdrawn by Mr. Burney.

Mr. Quayle moved to take up the House resolution to adjourn *sine die* on Monday, 2nd of March ensuing. Whereupon Mr. Quayle, upon suggestion, withdrew the motion.

Mr. Durant moved to adjourn until 3 o'clock P. M. Carried.

3 o'clock P. M.

Senate met, roll called, quorum present.

The question being upon Mr. Hartley's motion to reconsider the vote tabling Mr. Harcourt's amendment offered on yesterday, Mr. Hartley moved a call of the Senate which was sustained.

The Senate not being full, the consideration of a bill authorizing the County Courts to establish a tariff of prices for the purposes therein named came up and the question being on the adoption of the amendment proposed this morning by Mr. Shepard, Mr. Guinn moved to lay the amendment on the table, whereupon the Yeas and Nays were called and stood thus:

Yeas: Messrs. Andres, Beasley, Boyd, Cooper, Ford, Graham, Guinn, Lea, Lair, Maxey, Moore of Davis, Quayle, Weatherford, and Wheeler—14.

Nays: Messrs. Burney, Casey, Cook, Crawford, Dickson, Durant, Harcourt, Hartley, Hord, Moore of Bastrop, Shepard, and White—12.

The question recurred on the adoption of the substitute for 1st Section when Mr. Shepard moved to amend by adding "indigent families." Adopted. The substitute was then adopted.

Mr. Hartley moved to indefinitely postpone the bill. Whereupon Mr. Quayle moved to lay the motion on the table. The Yeas and Nays being called stood thus:

Yeas: Messrs. Beasley, Boyd, Burney, Cooper, Crawford, Graham, Guinn, Lair, Maxey, Moore of Davis, Quayle, Weatherford, and Wheeler—13.

Nays: Messrs. Andres, Batte, Casey, Cook, Dickson, Durant, Ford, Harcourt, Hartley, Hord, Lea, Moore of Bastrop, Reed, Selman, Shepard, and White—16.

Mr. Hartley moved to suspend the call of the Senate. Lost.

The question then recurred upon Mr. Hartley's motion to indefinitely postpone. Mr. Durant moved to lay the bill on the table, a preference motion. The Yeas and Nays being called stood thus:

Yeas: Messrs. Boyd, Cooper, Crawford, Dickson, Durant, Ford, Graham, Guinn, Lea, Lair, Maxey, Moore of Bastrop, Quayle, Reed, and Wheeler—16 [15].

Nays: Messrs. Andres, Batte, Beasley, Burney, Casey,

Cook, Harcourt, Hartley, Hord, Parsons, Shepard, Selman, Weatherford and White—14.

On motion of Mr. Hartley, the call was suspended and the vote taken on Mr. Hartley's motion to reconsider the vote taken on yesterday to lay Mr. Harcourt's amendment relative to soldiers' families to the bill to regulate the cultivation of cotton on the table, which stood thus:

Yeas: Messrs. Batte, Casey, Cook, Dickson, Ford, Harcourt, Hartley, Hord, Moore of Davis, Moore of Bastrop, Reed, Selman, Shepard, and White—14.

Nays: Messrs. Andres, Beasley, Boyd, Burney, Cooper, Crawford, Durant, Graham, Guinn, Lea, Lair, Maxey, Parsons, Quayle, Weatherford, and Wheeler—16.

Mr. Quayle moved the previous question whereupon Mr. Dickson moved a call of the Senate which was sustained.

On motion the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. tomorrow.

Friday, February 27, 1863  
9 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Lea, one of the Committee on State Affairs, reported on behalf of that Committee a Bill to provide assistance for families and other dependents of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, recommending its passage with the following amendments.

In caption and in section 1, strike out the word "non commissioned."

In Section 1, after the words "County Court," insert "for administrative police in the respective County."

At end of Section 1, add "and the court shall conduct this business with appropriate regularity, keeping full minutes of its proceedings in a book not containing any other matter, and such book shall be always subject to inspection by any orderly citizen."

At end of Section 5 add "provided such control shall not be exercised until at least a majority of the members of the County Court shall have been cited to appear and answer the complaint and the citation shall be executed at least ten days before the time for answering and the mode of service shall be by giving a copy to the person or